

TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia
ESTABLISHED 1892

Calvin H. Robinson

Editor and Publisher

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SUBJECT MATTER

We feel it necessary to report to our valued readers that the Editor of the Times-Virginian makes a rather considerable effort to read a dozen or more of the better daily newspapers of scattered sections of the nation, in addition to countless weekly papers, and from this we attempt to bring you our own opinion.

DO FIGURES LIE?

(The Winchester Star)
Some cheerful statistics are to be found in the November issue of the Federal Reserve Board's monthly Bulletin. For example, it reports that total consumer income in the United States during the third quarter of 1949 stood at an annual rate of \$210,600,000,000. It says that this was 90 per cent higher than the 1939 rate and only three per cent lower than the peak rate reached last year.

To state the situation in that way is to emphasize the brighter side. It calls attention to the favorable comparison between the third quarter of this year and a prewar year of a decade ago. It minimizes the fact that consumer income for 1948 was higher, if only a little higher, than in the July-September period of this year.

The fact remains that the economic picture reflected by the Bulletin is bright when it is placed beside still brighter 1948. It's clear now that 1949 will go down into history as a very prosperous year. No one will deny that Americans generally enjoyed a much higher level of material well-being this year than they did 10 years ago. Was it 90 per cent higher? Allowance should be made for the increase in population as well as for the decline in the purchasing power of the dollar over the decade. The Bulletin apparently adjusted the income rate for the third quarter of 1949 to 1935-39 dollars, but did not reduce the total to a per capita figure. If it had, the increase would have been nearer 80 per cent.

Also, no allowance is made for the vast increase in income taxes since 1939. Deduct taxes, and the increase would be much less than 80 per cent.

It might be added that 1939 was nothing special. The Bulletin might have gone back two decades, to 1929, if it wanted to compare 1949 with a really prosperous year. Had it done so, it would have been discovered that consumer income in the third quarter was approximately 50 per cent higher, measured in 1935-39 dollars, than it was in 1929. If the increased tax factor is ignored.

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fact to both parties and no phase of surgery after the event. Certainly a man's nose, as Cyrus no crowd, is a most important feature. Even admitting the rather rash saying that all is well lost for love, one does not like to think that the lover's nose can be passionately risked or occupationally endangered without some surety of compensation. We congratulate the Virginia Industrial Commission on a decision which may well set a precedent in any future lawsuits of the president: Kiss and a resistant brow.

THE SHORTEST MONTH

(New York Times)

December is the shortest month of the year. No argument will be accepted, if it is to the contrary; and those who point to February are merely making gestures. True, December does have thirty-one days, as they are. But can you really call days those hurried little specks that come zipping past, once Thanksgiving is behind and Christmas is just ahead? Certainly not. Why, if you even pause to check them off the calendar you have no time for anything else! The Thanksgiving turkey vanishes, and you turn around, and there is the Christmas tree waiting to be decorated. Then New Year's Day is here, and January, December is gone again.

There is no illusion about it, except for those who are innate sticklers. In round figures (December has only 288 hours of daylight; and that counts in even those dreary times when the sun sulks behind

a mass of clouds all day long. Even March, of evil reputation, can muster that many hours of technical daylight in twenty-four days. And June, magnificent June, does as well by us in only nineteen days. What is a December day, anyway? Nine hours of daylight, with a few minutes left over at each end to turn the lights on and off. And fifteen hours of darkness. With a moon, to be sure, and a great many stars. But darkness, just the same. You eat breakfast by lamp-light, hurry to work in half-light, and get home in darkness. You have four week-ends in which to watch the sun scurry across the southern

BARDLY NEEDED

SAD REFLECTION

(The Pittsburgh Courier, Gazette)

Possibly it was an old bachelor editor who wrote: "Don't think that every sad-eyed woman has loved and lost—perhaps she got him."

WHY QUIT SMOKING

(Philadelphia Evening Bulletin)

A woman was boasting to a friend that her husband had quit smoking. "My, that takes will power," said the friend. "Indeed it does," agreed the wife. "And that's just what I've got."

HOMEMAKER'S ITEM

When shopping for wool blankets,

it's wise to read the label to determine the size, weight, and fiber. A well-made blanket will have a close, even weave. This can be determined by holding it to the light. The thickness of the nap, as well

Builders Hardware

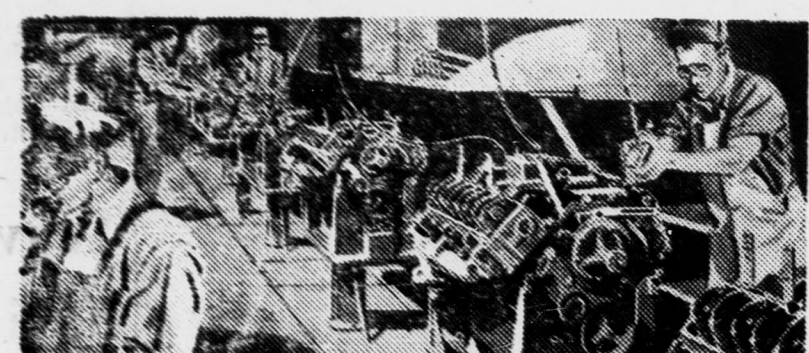
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- Cement
- Mortar
- Brick
- Asbestos Siding
- Rock Wool
- Sheetrock
- Brick Siding
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A 2-Cent Stamp
Required On
Xmas Cards

Don't try to mail your Christmas cards this year with 1 1/2-cent stamps, the Post Office Department has warned.

By way of explanation, it was pointed out that the postage rate on unadorned greeting cards, which travel by third class mail, was raised to 1 cent last January.

Christmas cards carrying 2-cent stamps are third class mail. They 1 1/2-cent stamps. First class mail stamps are not needed and must not be used on Christmas cards.

Only skilled post office clerks do every effort is made to deliver them, thing possible to get the card delivered.

Truman attends inter-denominational church service.

Play safe—drive carefully.

Evacuation of Chengtu now under way by Chinese Nationalists.

Hoover backs a new drive for economy.

Ex-Representative May enters U. S. prison.

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